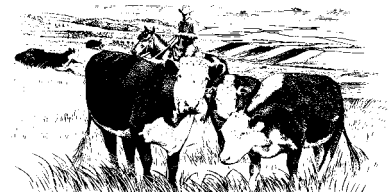


California Livestock Review



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HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS ISSUE:

Cattle On Feed	1
Livestock Slaughter & Farm Prices	2
Hog Inventory	3

NATIONAL LIVESTOCK REPORTS RELEASE DATES 3:00 P.M. ET

July 17	Cattle on Feed	Aug. 14	Cattle on Feed
20	Cold Storage	21	Cold Storage
24	Livestock Slaughter	21	Livestock Slaughter

CALIFORNIA CATTLE ON FEED

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter in California feedlots totaled 375 thousand head on June 1, 1998, up 1 percent from last month, but 5 percent less than June 1997. During May, placements of 50.0 thousand head were down 29 percent from the previous year. Marketings of 40.0 thousand head were 20 percent lower than a year earlier. Other disappearance was 5.00 thousand head.

of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 305 thousand, 600-699 pounds were 392 thousand, 700-799 pounds were 707 thousand, and 800 pounds and greater were 627 thousand. Marketings of fed cattle during May totaled 1.95 million, 5 percent below both 1997 and 1996. Other disappearance totaled 93.0 thousand head during May, 21 percent below 1997, but 11 percent above 1996.

U.S. CATTLE ON FEED UP 1 PERCENT

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for 1,000+ capacity feedlots totaled 9.70 million head on June 1, 1998. The inventory was 1 percent above June 1, 1997 and 13 percent above June 1, 1996. Placements in feedlots during May totaled 2.03 million, 9 percent above 1997 and 30 percent above 1996. Net placements were 1.94 million. During May, placements

CATTLE ON FEED UP 1 PERCENT IN HISTORIC SEVEN STATES

Cattle on feed in the historic seven states for 1,000+ capacity feedlots totaled 8.29 million on June 1, 1998, up 1 percent from the previous year and 14 percent above June 1, 1996. Placements in feedlots during May totaled 1.74 million, 8 percent above 1997 and 34 percent above 1996. Marketings during May totaled 1.68 million, 6 percent below 1997 and 4 percent below 1996. Other disappearance during May was 65.0 thousand head, 19 percent below 1997, but 12 percent above 1996.

CATTLE AND CALVES ON FEED IN 1,000+ CAPACITY FEEDLOTS IN SEVEN SELECTED STATES

State	Number On Feed May 1 1/			Placed During May		Marketed During May	
	1997	1998	1998/1997	1997	1998	1997	1998
	----- Thousand Head -----						
Arizona	214	205	96	40	45	45	31
California	385	370	96	70	50	50	40
Colorado	1,050	970	92	185	195	210	175
Iowa	325	310	95	37	30	60	50
Kansas	2,190	2,020	92	380	420	445	440
Nebraska	1,930	2,000	104	330	260	475	440
Texas	2,390	2,420	101	570	740	500	505
Seven-State Total	8,484	8,295	98	1,612	1,740	1,785	1,681
State	Other Disappearance During May 2/		Number On Feed June 1			1998/1997	
	1997	1998	1997	1998			
	----- Thousand Head -----					Percent	
Arizona	3	5	206	214	104		
California	10	5	395	375	95		
Colorado	15	10	1,010	980	97		
Iowa	2	0	300	290	97		
Kansas	15	10	2,110	1,990	94		
Nebraska	25	20	1,760	1,800	102		
Texas	10	15	2,450	2,640	108		
Seven-State Total	80	65	8,231	8,289	101		

^{1/} Cattle and calves on feed are animals being fed for slaughter market on grain or other concentrates, and are expected to produce a carcass that will grade select or better.

^{2/} Includes death losses, movement from feedlot to pastures and shipments to other feedlots for further feeding.

CALIFORNIA COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER

California production of red meat during May 1998 totaled 80.2 million pounds (dressed weight), 4 percent below last month and 5 percent below May 1997. This figure includes slaughter in Federally-inspected and State-inspected plants, but excludes slaughter done on farms. In May, the average live weight of cattle slaughtered was 1,239 pounds; calves, 114 pounds; hogs, 214 pounds.

U.S. RED MEAT PRODUCTION UP SLIGHTLY FROM 1997

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.58 billion pounds in May. This was up slightly from the 3.57 billion pounds produced in May 1997.

May 1997 contained 22 weekdays (including one holiday) and five Saturdays. May 1998 contained 21 weekdays (including one holiday) and five Saturdays.

Beef production, at 2.12 billion pounds, was 3 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.96 million head, down 7 percent from 1997. The average live weight was up 39 pounds from the previous year to 1,188 pounds.

Veal production totaled 19.0 million pounds, 27 percent below May a year ago and 5 percent below the record low for May set in 1993. Calf slaughter totaled 102 thousand head, down 13 percent from May 1997. The average live weight was 302 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.42 billion pounds, up 7 percent from the previous year. The hog kills totaled 7.57 million head, 7 percent above 1997. The average live weight, at 256 pounds, was unchanged from the previous year.

Lamb and mutton production, at 19.0 million pounds, was down 11 percent from May 1997 and 10 percent below the record low for May set in 1996. Sheep slaughter totaled 281 thousand head, 11 percent below last year. The average live weight was 139 pounds, unchanged from May a year ago.

January-May red meat production was 18.3 billion pounds, 4 percent above the comparable figure a year earlier. Accumulated beef production was slightly higher than last year, veal was down 23 percent, pork was up 10 percent, and lamb and mutton was up 1 percent.

COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER, MAY 1997-98 1/

Species & Location	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998
	- 1,000 Head -		- 1,000 Pounds -		- Pounds -	
CATTLE						
California	83.8	79.6	103,886	98,591	1,240	1,239
U.S. Total	3,181.5	2,958.2	3,657,079	3,513,488	1,149	1,188
CALVES						
California	12.3	12.3	4,334	1,410	352	114
U.S. Total	116.4	101.7	42,026	30,713	361	302
SHEEP & LAMBS						
California	---	---	---	---	---	---
U.S. Total	316.6	280.6	43,966	39,021	139	139
HOGS						
California	154.6	169.1	33,456	36,158	216	214
U.S. Total	7,101.1	7,572.4	1,817,194	1,936,692	256	256
RED MEAT	May 1997	April 1998 2/	May 1998	May 98 May 97	May 98 Apr. 98	
	--- Million Pounds ---			-- Percent --		
California	84.3	83.3	80.2	95	96	
U.S. Total	3,568.4	3,701.6	3,581.1	100	97	

1/ Farm slaughter excluded.

2/ Revised figures for April 1998 total.

AVERAGE FARM PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS, CALIFORNIA AND U.S. 1/

Commodity	Unit	California			United States		
		May 1997	April 1998	May 15, 1998	May 1997	April 1998	May 15, 1998
		----- Dollars -----					
All Hay, Baled <u>2</u> /	Ton	125.00	119.00	105.00	109.00	101.00	103.00
Alfalfa, Baled <u>2</u> /	Ton	129.00	120.00	107.00	112.30	105.00	108.00
Hogs <u>2</u> /	Cwt.	---	---	---	58.20	35.60	41.80
Cows <u>2</u> /	Cwt.	36.50	35.50	35.50	38.20	36.20	36.50
Steers and Heifers <u>2</u> /	Cwt.	64.00	64.00	64.00	68.30	66.30	65.70
Calves <u>2</u> /	Cwt.	71.00	75.00	73.50	84.30	90.80	89.60
Sheep <u>2</u> /	Cwt.	30.00	35.50	30.00	34.00	35.40	---
Lambs <u>2</u> /	Cwt.	94.00	69.00	63.00	90.80	66.10	---
Milk Cows <u>3</u> /	Head	---	1,260.00	---	---	1,110.00	---
All Milk Wholesale <u>2</u> /	Cwt.	11.62	13.19	13.00	12.70	14.00	13.40

1/ The estimated prices in the table represent composite average prices received by farmers and are averages for all grades, classes, and methods of sale of each commodity for the State and U.S. as a whole.

2/ Previous month revised to monthly average.

3/ Animals sold for dairy herd replacement only. Prices published January, April, July and October.

U.S. HOG INVENTORY UP 6 PERCENT

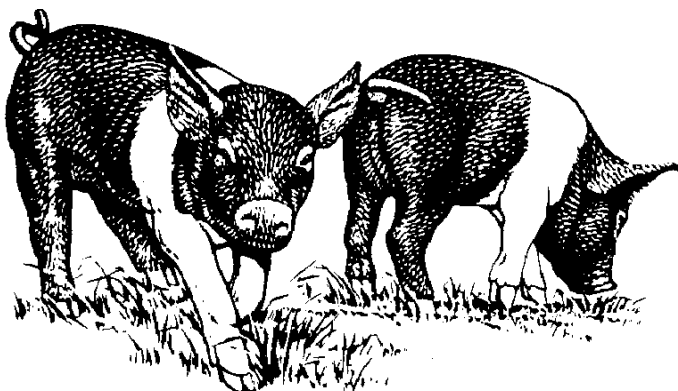
U.S. inventory of all hogs and pigs on June 1, 1998 was 61.6 million head. This was 6 percent above June 1997, and 3 percent above March 1, 1998.

Breeding inventory, at 7.02 million head, was up 1 percent from June 1, 1997 and up slightly from March 1, 1998. Market hog inventory, at 54.6 million head, was 6 percent above last year, and 3 percent above last quarter.

The March-May 1998 U.S. pig crop, at 26.7 million head, was 5 percent more than 1997 and 7 percent more than 1996. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 3.06 million head, 4 percent above last year. The sows farrowed during this quarter represented 44 percent of the breeding herd. The average of pigs per litter continues to increase, with an average of 8.74 pigs saved per litter for the March-May period. Last year the litter rate averaged 8.65 pigs. Pigs saved per litter by size of operation ranged from 7.30 for operations with 1-99 hogs to 8.90 for operations with more than 5.00 thousand hogs and pigs.

U.S. hog producers intend to have 3.03 million sows farrow during the June-August 1998 quarter, 3 percent above the actual farrowings during the same period in 1997 and 10 percent above 1996. Intended farrowings for September-November 1998, at 3.04 million sows, are 4 percent above the same period last year and 12 percent above 1996.

The total number of hogs under contract, owned by operations with more than 5.00 thousand head, but raised by contractees, accounted for 27 percent of the total U.S. hog inventory.



U.S. HOG AND PIG INVENTORY, JUNE 1, 1996-98

Item	1996	1997	1998	1998/1996	1998/1997
	--- 1,000 Head ---			Percent	
June 1 Inventory					
All Hogs And Pigs	57,150	58,263	61,600	108	106
Kept For Breeding	6,860	6,960	7,018	102	101
Market	50,290	51,303	54,582	109	106
Market Hogs And Pigs					
By Weight Groups:					
Under 60 Pounds	20,245	20,337	21,270	105	105
60-119 Pounds	12,690	12,777	13,547	107	106
120-179 Pounds	9,795	10,127	10,990	112	109
180 Pounds And Over	7,560	8,061	8,775	116	109